

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A medical system method comprises steps in using portable medication dispensing and data taking devices for use by an out-patient, and which communicate with a base station, typically within the patients' home. The base station communicates periodically with a remote control station which downloads a medical schedule to the base station and thereby to the portable devices, and also receives usage and medical state information from the patient through the portable devices and the base station. A transmission repetition protocol is used which provides a high degree of confidence that patient information will be received by the remote station. The remote station monitors patient activities and status and provides reports as well as refill requests when supplies are low. Presentations to the patient are provided by Internet or other simplified technique including showing history graphics while describing important features and recommending purchases of supplies and medications.